(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) According to the provisions of Para 3 of the Employees' pension scheme, 1995, Pension Fund Contribution @ 8.33% of employee's wage is payable from and out of the employer's share of Provident Fund contribution in each month by the employer within 15 days of close of every month. The Central Government also contributes @ 1.16% of the wage of the member.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

Contract Labour in SEZ's

1726. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand has been raised for contract labour in Special Economic Zone, export oriented units, small and medium enterprises involved in export as a part of time bound strategy to make them globally competitive;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The demand for allowing engagement of contract labour in Special Economic Zones etc. requires amendment to the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 which is not under consideration at present.

Child labourers

1727. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of child labourers have been liberated in Maharashtra and several other States this year;

(b) if so, the details of child labourers liberated from different industries in different States, district-wise;

(c) the industries and from what conditions they have been liberated; and

(d) the steps taken to rehabilitate them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K.CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) Conducting raids and inspections to detect cases of violations of the provisions of the Act is a regular and ongoing exercise carried out by the respective State Governments. During the special drive launched by the Government of Maharashtra 916 children were rescued mainly from Zari, Gold Ornaments and Hotel Industries in the last few months. Government of NCT of Delhi also rescued 648 children working in Embroidery units in the similar drive conducted in last few months.

(d) Government of India has taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of child labour working in hazardous occupations to reduce the incidence of child labour through the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLF). Under the Scheme, special schools have been set up in the child labour endemic districts with the provision for non-formal/ formal education, vocational training, stipend, nutrition, health-care etc. After a maximum period of three years in the special schools, these children are mainstreamed into regular education system.

Educated unemployed in the country

1728. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated total number of educated unemployed in the country, with break-up, of Higher Secondary/Intermediate, Graduate/ B.A., Postgraduate/M.A./M.Sc Engineering diploma holders, Engineering degree holders, Doctors/B.D.S./M.B.B.S,Teachers/B.Ed/M.Ed, M.B.A.; and

(b) what steps Government are considering to solve the burning issue of growing unemployment of the educated in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO) : (a) Educational level-wise distribution of jobseekers, all